Corrected Section of the Non-Compliant Amendment

Twice Amended Claims

Please amend **CLAIMS** as follows:

Claims 1-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (Newly presented): A method for verifiably transmitting an electronic package from a sender to a recipient through a certifying authority via a public communications network, the method comprising the steps of:

-          the sender logging on to a certifying authority using a standard authentication protocol;

-          the certifying authority creating an electronic package from inputs transmitted by the sender via the public communications network;

-          the certifying authority storing the inputs relating to the electronic package on a server operated by the certifying authority for use in later verifying the inputs relating to the electronic package and storing any other data received from the sender;

-          delivering a message relative to the electronic package from the certifying authority to the recipient via the public communications network;

-          the recipient logging on to the certifying authority as a response to the receipt of the message;

-          the certifying authority generating an encrypted hash value based on the inputs relating to the electronic package and the delivery thereof, the encrypted hash value uniquely identifying the particulars relating to the electronic package and the delivery thereof; and

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Claims 1-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (Newly presented): A method for verifiably transmitting an electronic package from a sender to a recipient through a certifying authority via a public communications network, the method comprising the steps of:

- the sender logging on to a certifying authority using a standard authentication protocol;

- the certifying authority creating an electronic package from inputs transmitted by the sender via the public communications network;

- the certifying authority storing the inputs relating to the electronic package on a server operated by the certifying authority for use in later verifying the inputs relating to the electronic package and storing any other data received from the sender;

- delivering a message relative to the electronic package from the certifying authority to the recipient via the public communications network;

- the recipient logging on to the certifying authority as a response to the receipt of the message;

- the certifying authority generating an encrypted hash value based on the inputs relating to the electronic package and the delivery thereof, the encrypted hash value uniquely identifying the particulars relating to the electronic package and the delivery thereof; and

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-       transmitting an electronic certificate of service from the certifying

authority via the public communications network, the electronic certificate of

service including selected inputs relating to the electronic package and a digital

certificate.

Claim 24 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 further comprising the

steps of:

-       storing the electronic package inputs and other related data on the

server operated by the certifying authority for use in later producing a duplicate of

the electronic package for a period of time agreed upon by the certifying authority

and the sender; and

-       storing the inputs comprising: the name and address of the email

sender, the name and address of the recipient, the name and email of the

address of any other persons to whom the certificate of service has been

delivered, the time of delivery, the date of delivery, the subject of the message,

the size of the message, the electronic package retention expiration date, the

name of each attachment, and the size of each attachment.

Claim 25 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the certifying

authority embeds the digital certificate on the face of the electronic certificate of

service.

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Claim 26 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the certifying

authority embeds the digital certificate in the electronic certificate of service

electronically.

Claim 27 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein a recipient,

sender or other person requests the certifying authority to employ the digital

certificate embedded within the electronic certificate of service so as to verify that

the contents of the electronic package stored on the certifying authority's server

are identical to the description thereof found on the face of the electronic

certificate of service.

Claim 28 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the certifying

authority utilizes the embedded digital certificate within the electronic certificate

of service to locate and identify the electronic package.

Claim 29 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the certifying

authority, having located and identified the electronic package, reproduces the

electronic package identically to that first assembled by the certifying authority.

Claim 30 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the reproduced

electronic package is certified to be a true and correct copy of the original

electronic package, such certification being made by the certifying authority.

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Claim 31 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the certifying authority issues a certification to a requesting party that the reproduced electronic package is a true and correct copy of the original electronic package and said certification and electronic package are delivered to said requesting party.

Claim 32 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the particulars surrounding the electronic package comprises maximum number of days within which to deliver the electronic package to the recipient.

Claim 33 (Newly presented): The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of informing the sender, in event that delivery was not made to the recipient within the maximum number of days, by delivering to the sender and other appropriate persons, an electronic certificate of non-service.

Claim 34 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the particulars surrounding the electronic package comprises a date through which the electronic package is to be stored by the certifying authority.

Claim 35 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein tracked message includes an email message and an email attachment and wherein the particulars

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surrounding the electronic package comprises identity of sender, email address

of sender, identity of recipient, email address of recipient, date of transmission,

time of transmission, length of the email message, name of the email attachment,

and size of the email attachment.

Claim 36 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 further comprising the

steps of creating the electronic certificate of service as an encrypted file.

Claim 37 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the step of

creating the electronic certificate of service as an encrypted file is accomplished

by creating an encrypted PDF file that is printable but not modifiable.

Claim 38 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 further comprising the step

of verifying an encrypted hash value that is questioned by transmitting the

encrypted hash value to the certifying authority; and comparing the encrypted

hash value that is questioned with records of the certifying authority.

Claim 39 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 further comprising the step

of notifying the recipient via the public communications network that the

electronic package is available for pickup from the server operated by the

certifying authority.

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Claim 40 (Newly presented): The method of claim 38 wherein the step of delivering the electronic package from the certifying authority to the recipient via the public communications network occurs upon a request for download thereof by the recipient; and wherein the step of transmitting an electronic certificate of service from the certifying authority via the public communications network takes place after completion of the delivering step.

Claim 41 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein particulars of the inputs of the recipient that are converted to an electronic package by the certifying authority are encrypted using an encrypted key maintained solely by the certifying authority for the purpose of embedding the same into the electronic certificate of service.

Claim 42 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the step of transmitting an electronic certificate of service transmits an electronic certificate of service to the sender.

Claim 43 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the step of transmitting an electronic certificate of service transmits an electronic certificate of service to the recipient.

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Claim 44 (Newly presented): The method of claim 23 wherein the step of

transmitting an electronic certificate of service transmits an electronic certificate

of service to a designee of the sender other than the recipient.